

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 TOKYO 12568 111011Z  
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OMB-01 TRSE-00 CIAE-00 PM-05 H-01  
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15  
ICA-11 /067 W  
-----085230 120528Z /14

R 110940Z JUL 78  
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9509  
INFO SECDEF WASHDC  
CINCPAC HONOLULU HI  
COMUSJAPAN YOKOTA AB JA  
AMCONSUL NAHA

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 12568

CINCPAC ALSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: MARR, JA  
SUBJECT: ASSESSMENT OF OKINAWAN ENVIRONMENT FOR US MILITARY  
- BASES

REF: NAHA 255 DTG 300800Z JUN 78

1. EMBASSY FINDS ITSELF IN FULL AGREEMENT WITH PERCEPTIVE JUDGMENTS IN EXCELLENT REFTEL PREPARED BY CONSUL GENERAL KNOWLES UPON THE COMPLETION OF HIS TOUR OF DUTY. DRAWING UPON HIS LONG EXPERIENCE IN JAPANESE AFFAIRS AND INSIGHTS INTO THE OKINAWAN SCENE, HE HAS CLARIFIED THE UNIQUE CONSTRAINTS GOVERNING MILITARY OPERATIONS IN OKINAWA.

2. WHILE OUR GOAL SHOULD BE TO ACHIEVE A SITUATION IN WHICH OKINAWAN BASE ISSUES ARE NO DIFFERENT FROM BASE ISSUES ELSEWHERE IN JAPAN AND OUR RELATIONSHIPS WITH OKINAWAN OFFICIALS ARE CONDUCTED IN THE SAME MANNER AS WITH OFFICIALS IN OTHER PREFECTURES WHERE BASES ARE LOCATED, WE  
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REALIZE IT IS A GOAL UNLIKELY TO BE ACHIEVED IN THE FORESEEABLE FUTURE. APART FROM THE FEW MINOR SIGNS OF PROGRESS IN SHAPING LOCAL OKINAWAN ATTITUDES THAT MR. KNOWLES HAS NOTED, HOWEVER, WE FIND IT HEARTENING THAT, OUTSIDE OF OKINAWA, JAPANESE OFFICIALS AND THE GENERAL PUBLIC HAVE COME TO ACCEPT AS ROUTINE MANY OF OUR OPERATIONS THAT CANNOT YET BE APPROACHED WITH EQUANIMITY IN OKINAWA IT-

SELF, E.G. HIGHWAY 104 FIRINGS, B-52 TYPHOON EVACUATION  
FLIGHTS, AIRCRAFT NOISE, ETC. THIS MAY BE OF SMALL COM-  
FORT TO U.S. OR GOJ OFFICIALS IN OKINAWA, BUT IT MAKES IT  
SOMEWHAT EASIER FOR US TO ENGAGE THE SUPPORT OF THE GOJ  
AT THE CENTRAL LEVEL THAT MR. KNOWLES HAS PROPERLY FLAGGED  
AS CRUCIAL FOR OUR ESSENTIAL OPERATIONS. POLITICAL SEN-  
SITIVITY ON THE PART OF ALL CONCERNED WILL, AS HE POINTS  
OUT, REMAIN KEY, AND IN THIS REGARD WE HAVE BEEN FAVORED  
BY EXCELLENT UNDERSTANDING ON THE PART OF OUR SERVICE  
COMMANDERS. MANSFIELD

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PUBLIC ATTITUDES, MILITARY BASES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 11 jul 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978TOKYO12568  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 78 NAHA 255  
**Retention:** 0  
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**Review Content Flags:**  
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**Subject:** ASSESSMENT OF OKINAWAN ENVIRONMENT FOR US MILITARY - BASES  
**TAGS:** MARR, JA, US  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
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20 Mar 2014  
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